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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 400, 94TH CONGRESS)

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The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

I was very pleased to meet with you at breakfast last month. I find it very useful and encourage you to continue the practice.

On another topic, I'd like to express my interest in the human side of the business -- HUMINT. The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has, as you know, a Subcommittee on Collection and Foreign Operations which I chair. While the Committee has heard a great deal on technical collection capabilities, we have never really looked at HUMINT.

During your nomination hearings last year, you indicated that human means supplement the technical side, "... the real trick in intelligence is in putting them all together, getting the mosaic, and then forming a judgment about what it all adds up to." I share that view and would be interested in seeing how all of the pieces come together.

I would propose that my Subcommittee meet to review our HUMINT capabilities. If you agree I would suggest a hearing on Monday, July 26th at 10 A.M.. I know that we cannot possibly cover every aspect of the subject and so I would like to limit the general geographic area to the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. To further limit the discussion, a suggested agenda is attached.

Should you have further questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call or contact my Committee designee, Larry Kettlewell at 224-1700. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John H. Chafee
United States Senator

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